

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 92559-32958

Title: LOCAL SECURITY

Operation/Exercise Name: MARFOR PROMOTE LIBERTY      Observed: 13 Jun 1990

Originator: COMMARFOR PANAMA

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5. (U) OBSERVATION:

Local security of the cuartels in a low intensity conflict (LIC) is a challenge, especially when Marines are living there.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

Initially the local security was very overt with roadblocks and concertina wire on the road in front of the cuartel and an armed sentry walking in front of the cuartel. As time progressed and the Panamanian National Police (PNP) became more reliable, the local security became more subtle. To make the cuartel appear less like a fortress, it was hardened from the inside. Concertina and roadblocks were removed, and the armed sentries were moved to less conspicuous observation posts.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

In a LIC the local security must be maximized without making the cuartel appear a fortress.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the techniques described be used for local security of cuartels in a LIC.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

None stated.

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